



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Thursday - November 14, 2002

- ***In the West***, scattered showers linger across the ***interior Northwest***, where recent soil moisture improvements have promoted winter wheat emergence and development. Meanwhile in ***California***, dry weather favors a return to fieldwork, following last week's beneficial precipitation.
- ***On the Plains***, dry weather favors an acceleration of cotton, sorghum, and peanut harvesting across ***southern portions of the region***. Meanwhile, cool weather and soil moisture shortages continue to limit winter wheat establishment on the ***northern and central High Plains***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, light rain and snow showers are developing in conjunction with a developing storm system. The showers are causing minor delays in final summer crop harvesting, but boosting soil moisture reserves for winter wheat in chronically dry areas from the ***middle Mississippi Valley to southern Lower Michigan***.
- ***In the South***, warm, dry weather is promoting a gradual return to fieldwork and allowing lowland flooding to subside. However, some areas from the ***Delta to the southern Atlantic Coast*** continue to experience wetness-related delays in winter wheat planting and cotton and soybean harvesting.

Outlook: Dry, mild weather will prevail along the ***East Coast*** until a developing storm system tracks across the region during the weekend. Moderate to heavy rain will spread northward across the ***Atlantic Coast States***, while snow will be possible in the ***northern Appalachians*** and ***upper Ohio Valley***. Meanwhile, below-normal temperatures will surge southward through the ***Mississippi Valley*** behind a cold front. Elsewhere, periods of rain and mountain snow will be confined to the ***Pacific Northwest***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for November 19-23 calls for above-normal precipitation in the ***Pacific Northwest*** and ***New England***, but below-normal precipitation across most of the remainder of the U.S. Warmer-than-normal weather is expected along and west of a line from the ***southern Plains to the Corn Belt***, while below-normal temperatures are predicted for the ***eastern Gulf Coast and southern Atlantic States***.

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